

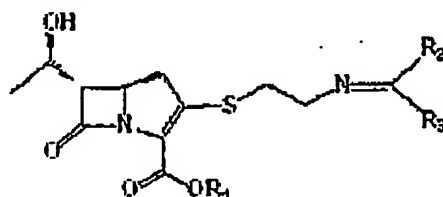
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What is claimed is:

1. A compound of Formula II below:



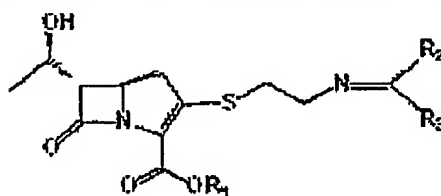
(II)

5 wherein

$R_1$  is a p-nitrobenzyl or p-methoxybenzyl group; and  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  may be identical to or different from each other and are each independently a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or aryl group, or a derivative thereof.

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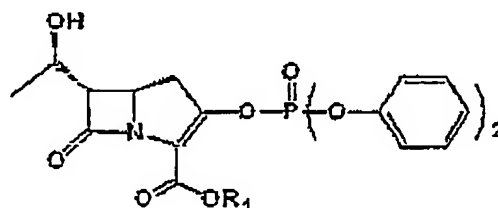
2. A process for preparing a compound of Formula II below:



(II)

wherein

$R_1$  is a p-nitrobenzyl or p-methoxybenzyl group; and  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  may be identical to or different from each other and are each independently a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or aryl group, by coupling a compound of Formula IV below:



(IV)

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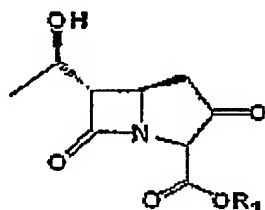
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wherein  $R_1$  is a p-nitrobenzyl or p-methoxybenzyl group, or a derivative thereof, with 2-aminoethanethiol hydrochloride in the presence of a base, followed by reaction with a ketone.

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3. The process according to claim 2, wherein the ketone is selected from the group consisting of acetone, methylethylketone, diphenylketone, and mixtures thereof.

10 4. The process according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the compound of Formula IV or a derivative thereof is obtained by condensing a compound of Formula III below:



(III)

wherein  $R_1$  is a p-nitrobenzyl or p-methoxybenzyl group,  
15 with diphenylchlorophosphate in the presence of a base.

5. The process according to claim 4, wherein the reaction solvent is a mixed solvent of acetonitrile and tetrahydrofuran.

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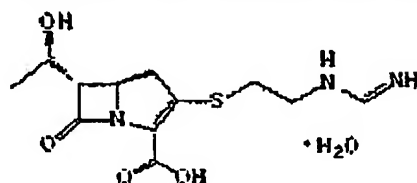
6. The process according to claim 4, wherein the reaction temperature is within the range of 0°C to -10°C.

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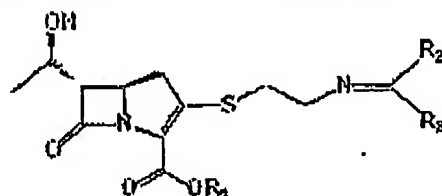
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7. A process for preparing the compound of Formula I below:



(I)

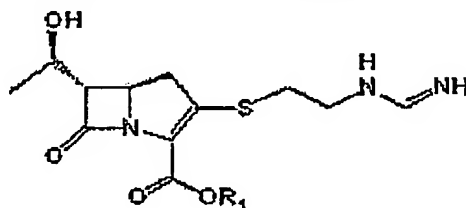
by reacting a compound of Formula II below:



(II)

5 wherein

$R_1$  is a p-nitrobenzyl or p-methoxybenzyl group; and  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  may be identical to or different from each other and are each independently a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or aryl group, with isopropylformimidate or benzylformimidate in the presence  
10 of a base to obtain a compound of Formula V below:



(V).

wherein  $R_1$  is a p-nitrobenzyl or p-methoxybenzyl group, hydrogenating the compound of Formula V in the presence of a metal catalyst, separating the hydrogenated compound, and  
15 crystallizing the separated compound in the presence of an alcohol or ketone.

8. The process according to claim 7, wherein the hydrogenation

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is carried out in the presence of a palladium catalyst containing an excess of water under a hydrogen pressure of 4~6 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>.

- 5 9. The process according to claim 7, wherein the reaction solvent is a mixed solvent of water and tetrahydrofuran.

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